

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL NOTE

SB 981 - HB 1103

March 21, 2019

SUMMARY OF BILL: Enacts the *Public Contracts for Legal Services Act* by establishing the process a political subdivision of this state must follow to enter into a contingent fee contract for legal services. Establishes that a political subdivision may enter into such contracts if a written notice of a meeting, along with a statement of the reasons for pursuing the matter with contingency through a specific law firm, is made available to the public. Requires the political subdivision to approve such contracts in an open meeting called to determine the necessity of the contract. Requires the political subdivision, before executing such contracts, to submit the contract and all related descriptions for the Attorney General and Reporter (AG) to approve within a 90-day timeframe. Voids any contract entered into in violation of this part.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

Assumptions:

- The number of political subdivisions entering into contingency fee contracts for legal services is estimated to be minimal; holding a public meeting to approve such contracts and preparing documentation for approval by the AG can be accomplished within existing resources.
- The AG can review and make determinations on contract approvals in a 90-day timeframe within existing resources.
- No significant fiscal impact to state or local government.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Krista Lee Carsner".

Krista Lee Carsner, Executive Director

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